



# REGIONAL NEWS RELEASE

United States Department of Agriculture  
NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE  
MOUNTAIN REGIONAL FIELD OFFICE  
P.O. BOX 150969 · Lakewood, CO 80215-0969



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Rodger Ott  
(800) 392-3202

## MOUNTAIN REGION FARMERS HAVE ONE WEEK LEFT TO RETURN THE 2022 CENSUS OF AGRICULTURE

**LAKEWOOD, Colo. – May 23, 2023** – The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) will end data collection for the 2022 Census of Agriculture on May 31. Arizona, Colorado, Montana, New Mexico, Utah, and Wyoming producers who have not yet returned their completed questionnaires have just one week left to respond. Federal law requires everyone who received the ag census to complete and return it. Recipients can respond online at [agcounts.usda.gov](https://agcounts.usda.gov) or by mail.

“Thank you to the farmers and ranchers that have completed and returned their Census of Agriculture. The important data that is collected in the ag census provides a picture of the current state of agriculture and rural America and is used to make decisions that impact our communities and businesses,” said Rodger Ott, Director, Mountain Regional Field Office. “By responding, Mountain Region ag producers make sure the best data is available for better decisions.”

USDA NASS is reminding ag census recipients that if they produced and sold \$1,000 or more of agricultural product in 2022, or normally would have produced and sold that much, they meet USDA’s definition of a farm. However, landowners who lease land to producers, those solely involved in conservation programs, and even those who may not have farmed in 2022 are still required to respond.

The ag census differs from other NASS surveys. Beyond being conducted just once every five years, it provides important demographic information and data on certain commodities, such as horses, bison, and Christmas trees, that would not otherwise be available. The Census of Agriculture collects information on nearly every aspect of American agriculture for a complete picture of the health of the industry. Changes to the 2022 questionnaire include new questions about the use of precision agriculture, hemp production, hair sheep and updates to internet access questions.

Federal law under Title 7 USC 2204(g) Public Law 105-113 requires that NASS keep all submissions confidential, use the information for statistical purposes only, and publish aggregate data to prevent disclosing the identity of any individual producer or farm operation.

For assistance filling out the ag census, recipients can call 888-424-7828. NASS will release the ag census data in early 2024. To learn more about the Census of Agriculture, visit [nass.usda.gov/AgCensus](https://nass.usda.gov/AgCensus). On the website, producers and other data users can access frequently asked questions, past ag census data, special study information, and more. For highlights of these and the latest information, follow USDA NASS on Twitter at [@usda\\_nass](https://twitter.com/usda_nass). For state specific questions, please contact your USDA NASS State Statistician at 1-800-392-3202:

Arizona – Dave DeWalt  
Colorado – Rodger Ott

Montana – Eric Sommer  
New Mexico – Margie Whitcotton

Utah – John Hilton  
Wyoming – Leslee Lohrenz

###